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CLAIMS

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1. Multilayer mounting mat for mounting a pollution control element, said mounting mat comprising at least one intumescent layer disposed between at least one first non-intumescent layer and at least one second non-intumescent layer,

wherein said at least one intumescent layer comprises an intumescent material and has a surface density of at least about 500 g/m^2 , said at least one first non-intumescent layer comprises inorganic fibers, has a surface density of at least about 450 g/m^2 and defines an opposite major side of said mounting mat, and said at least one second non-intumescent layer comprises inorganic fibers, has a surface density of at least about 450 g/m^2 and defines another opposite major side of said mounting mat.

- 2. Multilayer mounting mat according to claim 1 wherein at least one of said first non-intumescent layer and said second non-intumescent layer comprises at least one of a layer of glass fibers, a layer of ceramic fibers obtainable from a sol-gel process, and a layer of annealed ceramic fibers.
- 3. Multilayer mounting mat according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the surface density of at least one of said first non-intumescent layer and said second non-intumescent layer is at least about 600 g/m^2 .
- 4. Multilayer mounting mat according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the surface density of at least one of said first non-intumescent layer and said second non-intumescent layer is at least about 800 g/m².
- 5. Multilayer mounting mat according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the surface density of at least one of said first non-intumescent layer and said second non-intumescent layer is at least about 1000 g/m^2 .
- 6. Multilayer mounting mat according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the surface density of at least one of said first non-intumescent layer and said second non-intumescent layer is at least about 1400 g/m².

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7. Multilayer mounting mat according to any one of claims 1 to 6 wherein the surface density of said intumescent layer is at least about 1000 g/m².

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8. Multilayer mounting mat according to any one of claims 1 to 6 wherein the surface density of said intumescent layer is at least about 1500 g/m².

9. Multilayer mounting mat according to any one of claims 1 to 6 wherein the surface density of said intumescent layer is at least about 2000 g/m².

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10. Multilayer mounting mat according to any one of claims 1 to 9 wherein the uncompressed thickness of said intumescent layer is not more than about 1/3 of the combined uncompressed thicknesses of said first non-intumescent layer and said second non-intumescent layer.

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11. Multilayer mounting mat according to claim 10 wherein the uncompressed thickness of each of said intumescent layer, said first non-intumescent layer and said second non-intumescent layer is in the range of from about 0.1 mm to about 10 mm.

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12. Multilayer mounting mat according to claim 10 or 11 wherein the uncompressed thickness of said mounting mat is in the range of from about 3.0 mm to about 30 mm.

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13. Multilayer mounting mat according to claim 1 or 2 wherein at least one of said first non-intumescent layer and said second non-intumescent layer comprises a layer of glass fibers and said glass fibers comprise magnesium aluminium silicate glass fibers.

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14. Multilayer mounting mat according to any of the previous claims having a bulk density of 0.15 to 0.50 g/cm³.

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15. Multilayer mounting mat according to any of the previous claims wherein said intumescent layer comprises an intumescent material selected from unexpanded vermiculite, expandable graphite and mixtures thereof.

5 16. Multilayer mounting mat according to any of the previous claims wherein said intumescent layer further comprises inorganic fibers.

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- 17. Multilayer mounting mat according to any of the previous claims wherein at least one of said non-intumescent layers comprises inorganic fibers that are essentially shot free.
- 18. Pollution control device comprising a pollution control element arranged in a casing with a mounting mat as defined in any of claims 1 to 17 disposed between said casing and said pollution control element.